

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
)
Robert T. Sprague et al.) Atty. Docket No. 107431
)
)
CAUTERIZING SCALPEL BLADES)

SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH MPEP 609

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant(s) submit herewith documents which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and with respect to which they believe there may be a duty to disclose the existence and contents thereof. These documents are listed on the attached Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), nor as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission in any manner.

Copies of all listed documents are:

- attached hereto with the exception of U.S. patents and published patent applications pursuant to the July 11, 2003, notice entitled "Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003," signed by Stephen G. Kunin, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy.
- attached hereto unless provided during the prosecution of the parent application Serial No. _____ filed _____
 - now allowed

and issued as U.S. Patent No. _____ on _____.

Related Applications:

- In addition to the documents cited in the specification, applicant wishes to point out copending U.S. application Serial No. 10/253,866 filed on September 24, 2002 and U.S. application Serial No. 10/200,794 filed on July 22, 2002.
- This copending application relates to _____
- The inventive entity is the same.

The owner of the above applications is the same.

Initialing of each document after its consideration by the Examiner is now respectfully requested in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



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(847) 391-2387 (fax)

Dated: Dec. 9, 2003

AEG/mmb

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known					
		Application Number					
		Filing Date					
		First Named Inventor		Robert T. Sprague et al.			
		Art Unit					
		Examiner Name					
		Attorney Docket Number		107431			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBL. DATE	NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT OF CITED DOCUMENT	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,290,435	9/81	Waggott	128	800	9/7/79
		4,627,435	12/86	Hoskin	128	303.1	5/14/84
		4,679,561	7/87	Doss	128	422	5/20/85
		4,737,628	4/88	Lovoi	250	226	5/12/86
		4,872,458	10/89	Kanehira et al.	128	401	9/8/87
		5,186,181	2/93	Franconi et al.	128	804	7/27/90
		5,251,645	10/93	Fenn	607	154	6/26/91
		5,324,299	6/94	Davison et al.	606	167	2/3/92
		5,354,258	10/94	Dory	601	3	1/7/93
		5,366,456	11/94	Rink et al.	606	16	2/8/93
		5,528,561	6/96	Castanis	368	93	9/18/95
		5,571,098	11/96	Domankevitz et al.	606	15	11/1/94
		5,707,401	1/98	Talmore	607	88	2/24/95
		5,776,175	7/98	Eckhouse et al.	607	100	9/29/95

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION _____
								YES NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED

(Above references are attached hereto unless provided during the prosecution of parent application S.N. 10/253,866 filed 9/24/02 and S.N. 10/200,794 filed 7/22/02)

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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		Examiner Name				
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EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBL. DATE	NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT OF CITED DOCUMENT	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,051,005	4/00	Brandsey et al.	606	148	9/25/98
	6,132,428	10/00	VanDusseldorp	606	46	4/20/99
	6,159,200	12/00	Verdura et al.	606	1	11/5/98
	6,165,184	12/00	Verdura et al.	606	148	10/7/97
	6,235,037	5/01	East et al.	606	119	5/23/97
	6,275,738	8/01	Kasevich et al.	607	101	8/19/99
	6,312,435	11/01	Wallace et al.	606	130	10/8/99
	6,337,998	1/02	Behl et al.	607	101	7/14/99
	6,379,347	4/02	Maki et al.	606	17	5/27/99
	6,383,179	5/02	Neuberger	606	16	8/11/99
	6,394,998	5/02	Wallace et al.	606	1	9/17/99
	6,416,524	7/02	Critz et al.	606	167	4/5/01
	6,419,684	7/02	Heisler et al.	606	170	5/16/00

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(Ab v r fer nc s ar attach d hereto unl ss provided during th
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